

U.S. National Phase Application

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 5, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 5 and ends on line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a method for identification of a user, especially for devices of process automation technology[[.]] ~~as defined in the preamble of claim 1.~~

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 9, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 16, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the sentence which appears on page 3, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This object is achieved by ~~the method as defined in claim 1~~ a method which compares a person-specific feature or registered to stored person-specific features and grants access when a match is achieved.

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 24, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 4, line 24 and ends on line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention will now be explained in greater detail on the basis of an example of an embodiment illustrated in the drawing, the figures of which show as follows:

Fig. 1 a schematic ~~Schematic~~ illustration of a process control system; and

Fig. 2 a schematically illustrated block diagram of a device of process automation technology; and

Fig. 3 a schematically illustrated block diagram of a modified device according to Fig. 2, including a portable unit.

On page 5, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 1, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 6, line 21 and ends on page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Areas of application can be imagined, where a fingerprint sensor S can not be used. This is true especially in areas, where the fingerprint sensor could be exposed at the field device F1 to strong fouling due to environmental influences. In order also in these areas to be able to meet security requirements for process automation systems, a registration unit (Fig. 3) is provided, in place of the fingerprint sensor S, for the read-out of user-specific data from a portable unit. The registration unit can be a simple hardware-interface or even a wirelessly working, registration unit. The portable unit is, advantageously, an electronic key, which e.g. is securable on the key ring of the user. This electronic key can be e.g. inserted, in the case where data transfer to the device

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F1 is by wire, directly connected with the registration unit. A wireless data transmission is, however, also possible between electronic key and the registration unit. In case necessary, the electronic key can have its own energy supply in the form of a battery or the like. The user identifies herself to the device F1 by way of the electronic key. For different persons, different electronic keys can be issued, which also permit different user accesses. Thus, separate user rights are possible for startup, certification and servicing. Such electronic keys permit a unique identification of the user to the field device. In this way, user-specific access rights can be assigned. Also in this case, the user then can make use of only the device functionality allowed for such user.